



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
**Great Government Through the General Management System – Quality, Timeliness, Value**  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

CLASS SPECIFICATION

CLASSIFIED

VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN AIDE	Class No. 004759
VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN I	Class No. 004760
VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN II	Class No. 004761
VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN III	Class No. 004762
VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN IV	Class No. 004766

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■ CLASSIFICATION PURPOSE

To perform vector detection, prevention and control of mosquitoes, rodents and other vectors within an assigned geographic or program area; and to perform related work as required.

■ DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Positions in these classes are found in the Vector Surveillance and Control Division of the Department of Environmental Health.

Vector Control Technician Aide:

This is the trainee-level class in the Vector Control Technician series. Under immediate supervision, this class is responsible for learning to apply pesticides and acquiring experience in vector control work leading to state certification.

Vector Control Technician I:

This is the first working-level class in the Vector Control Technician series. Under general supervision, this class has the appropriate California Department of Health Services vector control certifications and is responsible for the use of pesticides within the areas of certification. This class differs from the next lower class, Vector Control Technician Aide, in that the latter is a trainee class whose incumbents have not yet obtained state certification.

Vector Control Technician II:

This is the journey-level class in the Vector Control Technician series. Under general supervision, this class is responsible for performing a full range of vector control work and possesses a California Department of Health certification in all areas of vector control.

Vector Control Technician III:

This is the lead-level class in the Vector Control Technician series. Under general supervision, this class leads the work of lower level vector control technicians and may supervise in the absence of the Vector Control Technician IV. The Vector Control Technician III class is fully certified in vector control by the California Department of Health Services, and may be assigned a geographical district.

Vector Control Technician IV:

This is the highest-level class in the Vector Control Technician series. Under general supervision, this class supervises, trains, and evaluates all lower level Vector Control Technicians in either a major geographical section or program area, and ensures that employees are working within their areas of state certification and/or gaining the necessary experience and training required for state certification. This class is fully certified in vector control by the California Department of Health Services. This class differs from the next highest class, Vector Surveillance and Control Manager, in that the latter is a section head responsible for the activities of professional and technical classes involved in the prevention and control of vector borne diseases.

■ FUNCTIONS

**The examples of functions listed in the class specification(s) are representative but not necessarily exhaustive or descriptive of any one position in the class(es). Management is not precluded from assigning other related functions not listed herein if such functions are a logical assignment for the position.**

Essential Functions:

Vector Control Technician Aide/ Vector Control Technician I and II

1. Inspects and surveys a variety of properties, lands, and facilities to determine the presence of vectors such as mosquitoes, rodents, and other vectors.
2. Prepares, compiles and maintains vector breeding sources, inventory, maps and records.
3. Searches land ownership, and works with property owners, community groups, and environmental groups to prevent and control vectors.
4. Monitors progress of vector control efforts.
5. Responds to citizens' complaints and requests for vector control services.
6. Sprays, treats, and baits to control invertebrate or vertebrate vectors using judgment in selecting appropriate materials and methods.
7. Conducts source reduction and suggests pest prevention measures such as exclusion, sanitation, draining, filling small bodies of standing waters, eliminating harborage, improving storage practices and modifying and/or eliminating vegetation.
8. Writes compliance notices and reports.
9. Completes investigation and inspection forms.
10. Operates and maintains a variety of specialized vector control tools, equipment, and vehicles.
11. Follows and enforces agriculture and pesticide codes and policies pertaining to vector management and control.
12. Provides responsive, high quality service to County employees, representatives of outside agencies and members of the public by providing accurate, complete and up-to-date information, in a courteous, efficient and timely manner.

Vector Control Technician III

All the functions listed above and:

1. Leads and oversees the work of a crew of Vector Control Technicians in special projects.
2. Supervises lower level classifications in the absence of the Supervising Vector Control Technician IV.
3. Maintains inventory of vector equipment and materials.
4. Routes and follows-up on complaints and service requests.
5. Assists in providing community outreach and education in vector prevention and control.
6. Assists in surveillance of vector-borne diseases.
7. Assists in organizing and conducting major vector surveys.
8. Oversees pesticide application and/or vector control equipment calibration.
9. Assists in the maintenance of specialized vector control vehicles, tools and equipment.
10. Provides training to lower level classifications.

Vector Control Technician IV

All the functions listed above and:

1. Plans, organizes and evaluates vector prevention, control and surveillance activities in a major section of the County or program area.
2. Assigns, directs, and evaluates the work of subordinate staff involved in inspection and investigation of lands, and facilities to determine the presence of vectors such as mosquitoes and rodents.
3. Establishes and maintains standards of performance.
4. Organizes and supervises major vector surveys.

5. Supervises the selection, use and/or implementation of appropriate materials and methods to collect, prevent and control a variety of vectors.
6. Operates, maintains, and supervises the operation and maintenance of a variety of specialized vector control tools, equipment, and vehicles.
7. Enforces agriculture and pesticide codes and policies pertaining to vector management and control.
8. Provides training of lower level classifications.
9. Prepares and compiles monthly reports.
10. Assists with budget preparation.

#### ■ KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

##### Knowledge of:

The following apply to all classes:

- Vector prevention and control methods and techniques including source reduction, biological control, and chemical control.
- Vector control equipment, vehicle operation and safety practices.
- Formulas and procedures for mixing, loading and using pesticides.
- Vector impacts on the health and well being of people.
- Life cycles and habitats of common vectors.
- Arithmetic calculations.
- County customer service objectives and strategies.

##### Vector Control Technician I: (in addition to above):

- Pesticide application equipment calibration.
- Complaint response and investigation methods.

##### Vector Control Technician II: (in addition to above):

- Federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to vector control.
- County geographical areas.
- Surveillance principles as they relate to vector/pest control.

##### Vector Control Technician III: (in addition to above):

- Training principles.

##### Vector Control Technician IV: (in addition to above):

- Principles of supervision.
- Basic statistics.
- Inventory control practices.
- Mapping techniques.
- Land uses and practices.

##### Skills and Abilities to:

The following apply to all classes:

- Judiciously spray, treat and bait to control vectors.
- Read, interpret, and explain to others, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations.
- Interpret and enforce laws and regulations relating to vector prevention and control.
- Identify common vectors in the field.
- Select appropriate source reduction methods.
- Operate and maintain vector control tools, vehicles and equipment.
- Mix chemicals, prepare traps and baits according to label specifications and established guidelines.
- Keep field notes, records and maps, and prepare reports.
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relations with those contacted during the course of work.
- Communicate clearly and effectively, both orally and in writing.
- Practice safety techniques and use good judgment in the use of vector control materials.
- Establish effective working relationships with management, employees, employee representatives and the public representing diverse cultures and backgrounds.
- Treat County employees, representatives of outside agencies and members of the public with courtesy and respect.

- Exercise appropriate judgment in answering questions and releasing information; analyze and project consequences of decisions and/or recommendations.

Vector Control Technician II (in addition to the above):

- Oversee the activities of lower level classifications with respect to pesticide uses.

Vector Control Technician III (in addition to the above):

- Lead a crew of staff on special projects and difficult tasks.
- Train staff in vector/pest control activities.

Vector Control Technician IV (in addition to the above):

- Plan, organize, and evaluate vector prevention and control activities.
- Assign, review, and evaluate work of staff.
- Develop and implement effective training programs.
- Evaluate sensitive issues and situations and resolve with sensitivity and tact.

■ EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE

Education, training, and/or experience that demonstrate possession of the knowledge, skills and abilities listed above. Examples of qualifying education/experience are:

Vector Control Technician Aide

1. Completion of at least nine (9) units of college level course work in biological or environmental health sciences, or equivalent academic course work OR
2. A high school diploma or equivalent, AND six (6) months of full-time, paid experience in controlling mosquito, vertebrate and invertebrate vectors.

Vector Control Technician I:

1. An associate's degree in biological or environmental health sciences, or equivalent academic course work, OR
2. A high school diploma or equivalent, AND one (1) year of full-time, paid experience in controlling mosquito, vertebrate and invertebrate vectors.

Vector Control Technician II:

1. An associate's degree in biological or environmental health sciences, or equivalent academic course work, AND one (1) year of experience as a Vector Control Technician I, or comparable experience, OR
2. A high school diploma or equivalent; AND, two (2) years of full-time, paid experience in controlling mosquito, vertebrate and invertebrate vectors.

Vector Control Technician III:

1. An associate's degree in biological or environmental health sciences, or equivalent academic course work, AND two (2) years of experience as a Vector Control Technician or comparable experience, OR
2. A high school diploma or equivalent; AND, four (4) years of the experience described above, two (2) years of which must be at the level of Vector Control Technician II.

Vector Control Technician IV:

1. An associate's degree in biological or environmental health sciences, or equivalent academic course work, AND four (4) years of experience as a fully certified Vector Control Technician by the California Department of Health Services, two (2) years of which must be at a lead or supervisory level, OR
2. A high school diploma or equivalent; AND, five (5) years of the experience described above, two (2) years of which must be at a lead or supervisory level.

Note: A bachelor's degree in biological sciences or a closely related field is highly desirable and, may be substituted for one (1) year of the required experience for Vector Control Technician III and Vector Control Technician IV.

## ■ ESSENTIAL PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**The physical characteristics described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of the classification(s). Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable an individual with qualified disabilities to perform the essential functions of a job, on a case-by-case basis.**

Incumbents use physical strength and agility on a continual basis and must be able to perform manual labor including lifting objects frequently weighing 50 pounds, walking long distances, and in rough terrain.

## ■ SPECIAL NOTES, LICENSES, OR REQUIREMENTS

### License

A valid California class C driver's license, which must be maintained throughout employment in this class, is required at time of appointment, or the ability to arrange necessary and timely transportation for field travel. Employees in these classes may be required to use their own vehicle.

### Certification/Registration

#### Vector Control Technician Aide:

Incumbents in this class are expected to apply for and obtain State certification in the areas of mosquito control, terrestrial invertebrate vector control, and vertebrate vector control within two (2) years of the date of employment as Vector Control Technician Aide, or be subject to termination from county service. Failure to maintain active (unlimited) vector control certifications at all times will result in separation from county service.

#### Vector Control Technician I:

Valid (unlimited) California certification in mosquito control and terrestrial invertebrate vector control, or vertebrate vector control and terrestrial invertebrate vector control is required prior to appointment. Incumbents who are certified in only two areas of certification are expected to complete the remaining (third) area of certification within one (1) year of the date of employment as Vector Control Technician I, or be subject to termination from county service. Failure to maintain active vector control certifications at all times will result in separation from county service.

#### Vector Control Technician II, III, and IV:

Valid (unlimited) California certification in mosquito control, terrestrial invertebrate vector control, and vertebrate vector control is required prior to appointment. Failure to maintain active vector control certifications at all times will result in separation from county service.

### Working Conditions

Incumbents may be exposed to hazardous gases and chemicals, vectors and vector-borne diseases, rough terrain, inclement weather conditions, vicious animals, poisonous plants and animals, and may deal with irate or hostile individuals. Positions in this class are subject to emergency call on a 24-hour basis.

### Background Investigation

Must have a reputation for honesty and trustworthiness. Misdemeanor and/or felony convictions may be disqualifying depending on type, number, severity, and recency. Prior to appointment, candidates will be subject to a background investigation.

### Probationary Period

#### Vector Control Technician Aide/ Vector Control Technician I

Incumbents appointed to permanent positions in these classes shall serve a probationary period of 6 months (Civil Service Rule 4.2.5).

#### Vector Control Technician II/III/IV

Incumbents appointed to permanent positions in these classes shall serve a probationary period of 12 months (Civil Service Rule 4.2.5).

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